

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A61G7/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 A61G B66D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 43 37 527 A (SCHRAMMEL MORITZ) 11 May 1994 (1994-05-11) cited in the application column 4, line 15 - line 25 column 4, line 57 - line 60 figure 2	1
Y		2-4
A		5
X	US 5 553 335 A (LAHTINEN VELI-TAPANI) 10 September 1996 (1996-09-10) cited in the application column 3, line 7 - line 39 column 4, line 13 - line 42 column 4, line 43 - line 55 figure 4	1-3,5,7, 9
	----- -/-- -----	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ong, H.D.

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 361 397 A (UNIV NEW YORK) 4 April 1990 (1990-04-04) cited in the application page 6, line 35 - line 45 -----	2-4
A	WO 03/064312 A (CORVEN HEALTHCARE INC ;CHEPURNY MARK (CA); MOLNAR GORDON J (CA); W) 7 August 2003 (2003-08-07) cited in the application page 6, line 14 - line 26 figures 2B,3,4, -----	7,8
A	WO 97/09896 A (ERGODYNE CORP) 20 March 1997 (1997-03-20) cited in the application page 26, line 30 - line 32 figures 31,32 -----	10,11

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 4337527	A	11-05-1994	DE 9215173 U1 DE 4337527 A1	17-12-1992 11-05-1994
US 5553335	A	10-09-1996	FI 102 U1 FI 267 U1 AU 3454393 A DE 4390254 T0 WO 9314732 A1 FR 2686591 A3 JP 3330375 B2 JP 7506015 T DE 4316656 A1 FR 2690844 A1 GB 2267073 A , B	08-05-1992 17-09-1992 01-09-1993 26-01-1995 05-08-1993 30-07-1993 30-09-2002 06-07-1995 16-12-1993 12-11-1993 24-11-1993
EP 0361397	A	04-04-1990	US 4944056 A CA 1320927 C DE 68917400 D1 EP 0361397 A2 JP 2193667 A	31-07-1990 03-08-1993 15-09-1994 04-04-1990 31-07-1990
WO 03064312	A	07-08-2003	CA 2369668 A1 WO 03064312 A2 CA 2417506 A1 EP 1472176 A2	28-07-2003 07-08-2003 28-07-2003 03-11-2004
WO 9709896	A	20-03-1997	US 5737781 A AU 7109196 A CA 2231995 A1 EP 0865245 A1 JP 11512322 T US 6378148 B1 WO 9709896 A1 US 6341393 B1 US 6496991 B1 US 5890238 A US 2002029418 A1 US 2004221388 A1	14-04-1998 01-04-1997 20-03-1997 23-09-1998 26-10-1999 30-04-2002 20-03-1997 29-01-2002 24-12-2002 06-04-1999 14-03-2002 11-11-2004